



DEPUTY MAYOR TONI ATKINS
Science and Technology Commission
MEETING MINUTES

The San Diego Science and Technology Commission (SDS&TC) held a meeting on June 15, 2005 hosted by Community and Economic Development located at 600B Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Dr. Martha Dennis, SDS&TC Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M. Members present: Luis Avila, Dr. Hui Cai, Daniel Chang, Dr. Martha Dennis, Dr. Tom Dillon, Kristopher Lichter, Susan Myrland, Dr. Gail Naughton, Tyler Orion, Craig Roberts and Maurice Wilson. Members absent: Craig Andrews, Jon Cohen, Scott Corlett, Charles Holland, Marc Nemer, Scott Randall, Carrie Stone, and Julie Meier Wright. Community & Economic Development Department staff members: Jeff Kavar, Toni Dillon and Tina Hines. Others Present: Mr. Bo Hedfors, Board of Directors, San Diego Telecom Council.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dr. Martha Dennis announced and congratulated Dr. Hui Cai for being chosen as the Athena International scholarship recipient for the Rady School of Management at UCSD. Athena International is a business organization for professional women that support the development of women in leadership. The Rady School of Management at UCSD offers executive education programs in science, engineering, medicine, economics and international relations.

Dr. Dennis asked that Commission members consider the Commission's mission, undertakings and future areas of focus for a brain storming discussion at the September meeting. Dr. Dennis stated that she would review Commission documents throughout the summer and report back at this meeting.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR:** April 20, 2005
(MOTION/Orion/Dillon/UNANIMOUS)

IV. **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAFF UPDATE**

Jeff Kavar, Deputy Director, Economic Development Division, updated the Commission on the proposed Community and Economic Development (CED) Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 budget. Annually, in the month of June, the City Council reviews the City Manager's budget recommendation for the upcoming fiscal year. Throughout the vetting of the budget process, Council has the ability to make changes to the Manager's recommendations. Under the City Charter the final fiscal year budget must be adopted by July 1, 2006.

Kavar summarized that if adopted the most recent "updates" recommendations in the proposed City's budget would alter the C&ED Department organizational structure. One proposed change to C&ED Department is to privatize the Redevelopment Division. This private non-profit corporation would implement the eleven redevelopment project areas currently administered by the City of San Diego's Redevelopment Agency. The proposed structure of this redevelopment non-corporation, in part, would resemble the

successful Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC). Additionally, it is recommended that Economic Development Division (EDD) of the C&ED Department be absorbed by the newly formed non-profit redevelopment corporation.

V. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION IMPACTING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- A. Presentation: Working with Local Government to Grow Technology Sectors: Mr. Bo Hedfors, Board Member of the San Diego Telecom Council, presentation focused on how government, institutions of higher education and industry can partner to stimulate the local economy by enhancing the growth of a technology sector. He presented two examples of successful government-private sector partnerships: 1) Telecom City developed and implemented in Karlskrona, Sweden and 2) The Telecom Corridor area of Richardson Texas. Summarized below is Mr. Hedfors discussion of these partnerships.

Telecom City is a joint venture with Ericsson and Honeywell. This partnership was conceived to address Karlskrona's loss of jobs in the defense and ship building industry. The focus of Telecom City was to expand employment opportunities by assist wireless products and applications. Telecom City includes 52 companies that employ 4,500 people in telecom related jobs. Mr. Hedfors attributed the success of Telecom City to a core of competence, a board of directors with representatives from the Blekinge Institute of Technology, Municipality of Karlskrona, and telecom companies.

The Telecom Corridor derives its identity from its highly developed industry clusters focusing on military defense communication. As a result of this industry-government-educational partnership, over 600 high technology firms have chosen to locate in the Telecom Corridor. These industry clusters can be divided in to the following percentages based on technology: telecom-50%, information technology-25%, and semiconductor manufacturing 25%. The Telecom Corridor efforts are directed by Technology Business Council (TBC). Representatives from the University of Texas, at Dallas, the City of Richardson, and local CEOs are board members of this association. Collaborative efforts of the TBC have resulted in the following accomplishments: 1) Technology Training Network; 2) Foreign Trade Missions; 3) STARTech Business Incubator; 4) RISD Technology Planning/Mentoring.

Mr. Hedfors concluded his presentation by equating a strong alliance of industry, universities, and city government to a three legged stool. This three legged stool approach can be a powerful combination to promote growth in high technology sectors.

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

- A. DIWG Update: Dr. Dennis referenced a DIWG meeting that was held on June 14th, 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to reconvene organizations that have a stake in the resolution of the digital divide. Representatives from the San Diego Futures Foundation, Community Technology Center Network, Urban League, San Diego Regional Technology Alliance (RTA), Waitt Foundation, Regional Economic

Development Corporation, Science and Technology Commission, Community and Economic Development, and City Libraries Departments were in attendance.

Tyler Orion presented the results from the RTA study entitled “*An Examination of the impact of San Diego’s Digital Divide on Regional Economic Prosperity*”. Dr. Dennis cited that with the completion of the RTA study, designated DIWG members plan to meet with City Council offices to present results.

Dr. Dennis affirmed that an important outcome of this meeting was the discussion of the progress of each organization. In addition, vital information about available resources was exchanged between attendees. Lastly, Dr. Dennis stated that the DIWG subcommittee has agreed to meet three times a year.

- VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS: The next meeting will be September 7, 2005 from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business of the Commission; this meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.